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Dear Friend,

Thank you for contacting me in support of decriminalizing the use of marijuana at the federal level. I agree with you and am the lead sponsor of the Personal Use of Marijuana by Responsible Adults Act of 2009, which would prohibit the imposition of any penalty under an Act of Congress for the possession of marijuana for personal use or for the not-for-profit transfer between adults of marijuana for personal use.

I am also the lead sponsor of the Medical Marijuana Patient Protection Act, which would prohibit the Federal government, in a state that allows marijuana to be prescribed by a physician for medical use, from preventing the prescription, possession, transportation, or distribution of marijuana for that purpose.

I think that these are issues where further conversation among the American people is needed – you can be sure that I intend to keep pressing the issue on both fronts and will fight to allow each state to debate and decide the marijuana issue for themselves in spite of opposition from Congress.

I would encourage you to remain vocal and active in this debate, and I thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barney Frank". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

BARNEY FRANK